

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on September 23, 2003, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 1-4, 7, 9, 21, 22-24, 26-28, and 30 are amended; as a result, claims 1-30 are now pending in this application.

Objection to the Drawings

The Office Action indicates that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Office Action indicates that the “control transistor”, the “variable resistor”, and the “variable impedance output driver” (claim 27) in the same circuit must be shown in the drawings.

Applicant points out that all of the features in claim 27 are shown in the drawings. For example, FIG. 4 shows an integrated circuit 400 including a current reference 308 and a variable impedance output driver 402. Thus, the “variable-impedance-output-driver” feature of claim 27 is shown in FIG. 4.

Page 10, lines 16-18 of the specification indicate that integrated circuit 400 can include a current reference such as current reference 100 (FIG. 1). Hence, current reference 308 of integrated circuit 400 includes current reference 100. In FIG. 1, current reference 100 includes a control transistor 110 and a variable resistor 120. Since current reference 308 of FIG. 4 includes current reference 100, current reference 308 also includes control transistor 110 and variable resistor 120. Therefore, the “control transistor” and the “variable resistor” features of claim 27 are also shown in FIG. 4.

The explanation presented above points out that all of the features in claim 27 are shown in the drawings. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the objection to the drawings be reconsidered and withdrawn.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1, 7-9, 21, 22, 24, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kwak et al. (U.S. 2002/0039044).

Claim 1 is amended to include elements similar to the elements of the allowable claim 2. Thus, claim 1 is also allowable. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of claim 1 be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claim 1 be allowed.

Claims 7-9 are amended to be dependent from the allowed claim 6. Hence, claims 7-9 are allowable because claims 7-9 depend from the allowed claim. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 7-9 be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 7-9 be allowed.

Claims 21 and 27 are amended to include elements similar to the elements of the allowable claim 23. Thus, claims 21 and 27 are also allowable. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 21 and 27 be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 21 and 27 be allowed.

Claim 22 depends from claim 21. In view of the amendment to claim 21, claim 22 is believed to be allowable. Therefore, Applicant requests that the rejection of claim 22 be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claim 22 be allowed.

Claims 24 and 26 are amended to be dependent from the allowed claim 23. Hence, claims 24 and 26 are allowable because claims 24 and 26 depend from the allowed claim. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 24 and 26 be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 24 and 26 be allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6 and 10-20 were allowed.

Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 6 and 10-20.

Claims 2-5, 23, 25 and 28-30 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 2-5, 23, 25 and 28-30 are selectively rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus, claims 2-5, 23, 25 and 28-30 are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's representative (612) 373-6969 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

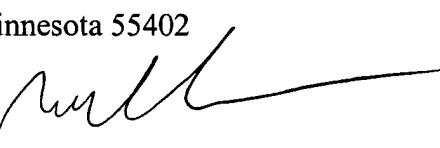
Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR-1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 30 day of October, 2003.

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